

Date: May 14, 2014

To: Thomas Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Constance Stancil, Director, Neighborhood Improvement Services
Subject: Human Relations Commission Recommendations to the City Council

Executive Summary

Mayor William V. Bell requested that the Human Relations Commission (HRC) conduct a review of the Durham Police Department relative to allegations of racism pertaining to its practices of stop and search, racial profiling and other alleged negative systematic practices relative to race. This agenda item includes a report and a power point presentation that was prepared by the HRC in response to Mayor Bell's request.

Ricky L. Hart, Chair of the Human Relations Commission will provide the presentation of HRC's recommendations to the City Council.

Recommendation

The Neighborhood Improvement Services Department recommends that the City Council receive and accept the report from the Human Relations Commission.

Background

In September of 2013, Mayor William V. Bell requested that the Human Relations Commission conduct a review of the Durham Police Department relative to allegations of racism pertaining to its practices of stop and search, racial profiling and other alleged negative systematic practices relative to race. The Commissioners started the review by dividing into focus groups so that they could gather information on specific topic areas and determine the relevant data and information that they would need to collect. After they concluded this segment of the review, they conducted a series of public hearings over a period of six months and invited representatives from the Durham Police Department, FADE, Southern Coalition for Social Justice, the NAACP, the PACs and the general public to make presentations.

After all of the presentations were done, the Commissioners continued to meet, discuss and review all relevant data and information that they had received as well as information that they gathered on their own. The next step involved deciding on the final recommendations and the topic areas that they would fall under and the final step was to vote and approve the final report and recommendations.

The attached link provides access to documents that were received at special meetings conducted by the Human Relations Commission from the Durham Police Department, FADE, Southern Coalition for Social Justice and the NAACP.

[Click here to view Presentations](#)

Additional documents that were received are available on the City of Durham website for the Human Relations Division, Neighborhood Improvement Services Department.